

River Camping



Flambeau River State Forest



Welcome!

The Flambeau River is the crown jewel of the state forest. With 75 miles of the north and south forks lying within the forest's boundary, its pristine waters and shoreline are available for all to enjoy. The Flambeau River offers a little bit of everything. From canoeing, camping, kayaking, and tubing – to fishing and waterfowl hunting – there is something for all ages to enjoy!

River Wildlife

Many species of animals call the Flambeau River and surrounding uplands home. The river is abundant with musky, walleye, catfish, sturgeon, and smallmouth bass. Several varieties of mussels and turtles call the river home as well, including some protected species. You're bound to see bald eagles, geese, ducks, and maybe a swan or two on the river. Several eagle nests are located within the forest boundary. If you look closely, you might spot signs of beaver building dens and otters playing in the area, as well as muskrats and fishers. With all the undeveloped shoreline, you may catch glimpses of white-tailed deer with fawns coming to the river for a drink, and maybe, just maybe, you will see one of the elk from the Flambeau herd!



Photo courtesy of Jim Kuchler

Beaver pond in winter on the Flambeau River.

River Camping

Within the Flambeau River State Forest, there are abundant camping opportunities on the north fork of the Flambeau that offer a remote, scenic camping experience. These sites are first-come first-served paddle up sites, and are located right on the river's edge. There are a variety of site types to choose from. Group sites provide space for up to 15 campers and offer multiple picnic tables, a canoe rack, fire rings and pit toilet. Semi-primitive sites allow up to six campers and include a table, fire ring and pit toilet. Primitive sites offer the most rustic experience for up to six campers and include a table, fire ring, and an open air privy.

Additional Information

For additional information, contact the forest headquarters located at:

**W1613 County W, Winter, WI 54896
715-332-5271**



Photo courtesy of Jim Kuchler

Wannigan's campsite with a river view.



Photo courtesy of Jim Kuchler

Wannigan's landing.

Local Emergency Contact Information

Price County Sheriff's Department: 715-339-3011 • Sawyer County Sheriff's Department: 715-634-4858 • Rusk County Sheriff's Department: 715-532-2200



What to Expect

The majority of the north fork located within the Flambeau River State Forest is flat water. From the Camp 41 Landing south to the southern boundary of the forest, there is an increase in rapids (all of them rating as a class 1 or 2). The south fork is where more challenging rapids are found, with rapids ranging the whole scale from class 1 to class 5. **Always be aware of your skills and abilities, and never operate outside of your capabilities.**

NORTH FORK RAPIDS CLASS

- Barnaby.....1
- Porcupine.....1
- Little Cedar Rip/Pine Island.....1
- Wannigan.....1-2
- Flambeau Falls.....1-2
- Cedar/Camp 4 (2nd pitch).....1-2
- Cedar (3rd and 4th pitches).....1-2
- Cedar (1st pitch).....2
- Beaver Dam.....2

SOUTH FORK RAPIDS CLASS

- Gunner.....1
- Otter Slide.....1
- Prison Camp.....1-2
- Cornsheller.....2
- Price Creek.....2
- Bull.....2-3
- Slough Gundy.....2-3
- Scratch.....2-3
- Little Falls.....5

Rules

Use of river campsites is restricted to **arrival by watercraft only**. River camping is allowed only in designated campsites and is **strictly enforced**.

Trip Mileage

- 9-mile Landing to Highway W Landing23 miles
- Deadman's Slough to Highway W Landing17 miles
- Oxbo to Highway W Landing9 miles
- Highway W Landing to Camp 41 Landing7 miles
- Highway W Landing to Beaver Dam Landing18 miles

Plan Your Route

Know how far you plan to go, what campsites you are going to stay at, and what landings you will utilize. Travel times vary on a variety of factors such as water levels and how much time you will spend sightseeing, fishing or exploring.



Little Falls Rapids starry evening.

Plan Your River Trip

The key to a successful and enjoyable trip is proper planning and having the right equipment. Also, always be aware of you and your group's capabilities and skill levels, and make sure to operate within those abilities. Maps and river publications are available at the state forest headquarters, and online at dnr.wi.gov (keywords "Flambeau River"). Always let someone know your trip plan including where you plan to put in, take out, places you plan to stop/camp, trip dates/times, and expected return times. The Flambeau River State Forest is very remote, and cell coverage is non-existent in areas – always have a plan!

Successful Trip Supplies

- life jacket
- sunglasses
- fresh water
- map
- brimmed hat
- tie-down straps
- camping gear
- cooking utensils
- fire-starting materials
- waterproof containers
- appropriate footwear
- toilet paper
- sunscreen
- camera
- bug spray
- cooler
- food
- spare clothes

Restrictions

No glass containers allowed. Empty beverage or unopened containers and litter shall be secured in a larger container that is fastened to the watercraft.



Come back soon! And be sure to visit Wisconsin's other Northern State Forests

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| 1 Governor Knowles State Forest..... 715-463-2898 | 5 Peshtigo River State Forest 715-757-3965 |
| 2 Brule River State Forest..... 715-372-5678 | 6 Black River State Forest..... 715-284-4103 |
| 3 Flambeau River State Forest..... 715-332-5271 | 7 Coulee Experimental State Forest..... 608-785-9007 |
| 4 Northern Highland American Legion State Forest..... 715-542-3923 | |

dnr.wi.gov (search keywords "state forest")

WDNR Call Center (toll-free 7 a.m.-10 p.m.) **1-888-936-7463** • FOR EMERGENCIES AND FOREST FIRES, **DIAL 911**